

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/524,698

Examiner

Javid A. Amini

Applicant(s)

TONISSON, ALAN

Art Unit

2672

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/23/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 129,130,132-151,155-176 and 180-186.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

***An examiner's amendment***

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gary M. Jacobs on 1/20/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

The withdrawn claims 34-36, 38-42, and 69-122 have been cancelled.

Page 15, Re. claim 129, line 16 should be written as follows:

... determined for one of said compositing operation nodes being [a proper subset of] smaller in area .....

Page 17, Re. claim 133, line 18 should be written as follows:

... one of said compositing operation nodes being [a proper subset of] smaller in area than the clip .....

Page 22, Re. claim 156, line 20 should be written as follows:

... and the arrangement of nodes in the hierarchical structure...

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 129-130, 132-151, 155-176, and 180-186 allowed.

Claims 1-128, 131, 152-154, and 177-179 cancelled without prejudice.

***An examiner's statement of reasons for allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The step of determining a clip region for each of the compositing operation nodes, and the clip region for each particular compositing operation node is equal to the intersection of the active region of the particular compositing operation node and the clip region of a parent compositing operation node of the particular compositing operation node. At least one of the clip regions determined for one of the compositing operation nodes is smaller in area than the active region for the one-compositing operation node. In addition, the step of determining an effective region for each of the compositing operation nodes, the effective region for each particular compositing operation node is equal to the intersection of the clip region of the particular compositing operation node and the active regions of the child nodes of the particular compositing operation node. At least one of the effective regions determined for one of the compositing operation nodes is a smaller in area than the clip region for the one compositing operation node. Further, the step of applying the compositing operation represented by each operation node to the pixels falling wholly within the corresponding effective region for the operation node to create the image, wherein pixels falling outside the effective regions are disregarded in applying the compositing operations and the arrangement of nodes in the hierarchical structure remains stable during the creation of the image.

***Claim numbering***

Old claim numbering	New claim numbering	Claim type
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1-128	Cancelled	Cancelled
129	1	Independent
130	2	Dependent
131	Cancelled	Cancelled
132	3	Dependent
133	4	Independent
134	5	Dependent
135	6	Dependent
136	7	Dependent
137	8	Dependent
138	9	Dependent
139	10	Dependent
140	11	Dependent
141	12	Dependent
142	13	Dependent
143	14	Dependent
144	15	Dependent
145	16	Dependent
146	17	Dependent
147	21	Dependent
148	19	Dependent

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149	20	Dependent
150	18	Dependent
151	22	Dependent
152	Cancelled	Cancelled
153	Cancelled	Cancelled
154	Cancelled	Cancelled
155	23	Dependent
156	24	Independent
157	25	Dependent
158	26	Independent
159	27	Dependent
160	28	Dependent
161	29	Dependent
162	30	Dependent
163	31	Dependent
164	32	Dependent
165	33	Dependent
166	38	Dependent
167	34	Dependent
168	35	Dependent
169	36	Dependent

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170	37	Dependent
171	39	Dependent
172	43	Dependent
173	40	Dependent
174	41	Dependent
175	42	Dependent
176	44	Dependent
177	Cancelled	Cancelled
178	Cancelled	Cancelled
179	Cancelled	Cancelled
180	45	Dependent
181	46	Independent
182	47	Dependent
183	48	Dependent
184	49	Independent
185	50	Dependent
186	51	Dependent

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue


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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A. Amini whose telephone number is 571-272-7654. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on 571-272-7664. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JEFFERY A. BRIER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Javid A Amini  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2672

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